



SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Andy Warhol's Dream America

The San Diego Museum of Art will feature pioneering pop artist Andy Warhol's in "Andy Warhol's Dream America," June 17 to September 10. The exhibit features 88 memorable screen prints including the 1967 Marilyn Monroe print suite and the 1986 Cowboys and Indians portfolio. This is a rare opportunity to see a large group of Warhol's complete print portfolios. Contact: San Diego Museum of Art, (619) 232-7931, www.sdmart.org.

Natural History Museum to Add Fossil Exhibit

The San Diego Natural History Museum is undergoing construction of its "Fossil Mysteries" exhibit, the first permanent exhibition at the museum. Set to open in summer 2006, the interactive exhibit will invite visitors to play the role of paleontologists and unfold the prehistory of Southern California and the peninsula of Baja California. The exhibit will explore San Diego fossils and themes of extinction, ecology and earth's processes. Contact: San Diego Natural History Museum, (619) 232-3821, www.sdnhm.org.

Party in the Hangar

A new event venue is now available for parties and corporate events in North County San Diego—the 10,000 square-foot hangar of Biplane, Air Combat & Warbird. For a unique ambiance, the hangar has up to six vintage planes dating from the 1920s to the 1940s both inside and outside the hangar. Additionally, crew dressed in flight suits keep guest events running smoothly and 1920s-era honky tonk piano music, WWII-era big band music or Vietnam-era Top Gun music help set the tone. Additional hangar fun includes formation training on tricycles, space shuttle and carrier landings on the company's state-of-the-art flight simulator, paper airplane contests and a variety of other team building activities. The company can also entertain up to 14 guests per hour with open cockpit biplane rides, authentic aerial dogfights in real aircraft, and loops and rolls in a WWII North American SNJ-4. Contact: Biplane, Air Combat & Warbird Adventures, (800) 759-5667, www.barnstorming.com.

Rancho Bernardo Marriott Opens in March

The Courtyard by Marriott San Diego/Rancho Bernardo opens March 7. Located just minutes from many businesses and tourist destinations, the hotel is a good fit for both travelers for business and travelers for pleasure. The new rooms combine comfort and functionality including high speed wireless and wired internet access. The rooms also feature large desks with ergonomic chairs and Marriott's new stylish, high-quality bedding, just like home! Contact: Courtyard by Marriott San Diego/Rancho Bernardo, (858) 613-2000, www.ranchobernardomarriott.com.

San Diego Zoo Showcases Pandas

Visitors can now see new giant panda cub Su Lin, at the Giant Panda Research Station exhibit. With the birth of Su Lin, whose name means “a little bit of something very cute,” the San Diego Zoo now has the largest population of giant pandas inside the United States. The Zoo’s Bai Yun gave birth to Su Lin, the third giant panda to be born at the zoo in August 2005. Contact: San Diego Zoo, (619) 231-1515, www.sandiegozoo.org.

SeaWorld San Diego

SeaWorld San Diego, along with SeaWorld Orlando and SeaWorld San Antonio, has embarked on the most ambitious killer whale show in the history of the parks. “Believe,” the new Shamu show scheduled to debut in spring 2006, will blend new killer whale behaviors with elaborate set pieces, music, choreography and state-of-the-art multimedia. The magnificent presence of Shamu will be reflected in a new two-story stage. A giant water fountain will spray across the width of the show pool; three new underwater cameras will capture Shamu below the surface; a giant three-story whale tail will soar high above the set; and four LED screens will move and rotate as they highlight the power and beauty of Shamu and his crew. The new show’s audio system is also one of the most sophisticated systems in the world, and many of the whales’ new behaviors will be choreographed to Believe’s original and inspiring musical score. Contact: SeaWorld San Diego, (800) 25-SHAMU or (619) 226-3915, www.seaworld.com.

US Grant Hotel

For the second time in 94 years, the US Grant Hotel closed its doors to the public and after a \$52 million renovation and restoration, will debut as part of the Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide’s prestigious Luxury Collection. The historic hotel will offer guestrooms, dining and lobby areas, all renovated and refurbished to restore the original 1910 ambiance and atmosphere. The hotel will re-open in September 2006 and unveil a luxury hotel of unparalleled caliber and quality, elevating the hotel to a four-star status. Contact: US Grant Hotel, (619) 232-3121 usgranthotel@usgrant.net, www.usgrant.net.

Women in Photojournalism

From May 7 to September 17, the San Diego Museum of Photographic Arts will offer three exhibitions that celebrate women in photojournalism. “Breaking the Frame: Pioneering Women in Photojournalism” features images from the 1930s to 1950s by six women photojournalists that were shot inside a concentration camp, at the Russian front and in the midst of California’s labor strikes. “Shooting in 35: The First 35mm Photographs” exhibits the first images made with the “new” 35mm camera from 1928 to 1936. “Today’s Pioneers: Two Women Photojournalists in Iraq and Afghanistan” examines the work of two award-winning photographers from *The Chicago Tribune* and *The Washington Post*. Contact: San Diego Museum of Photographic Arts, (619) 238-7559, www.mopa.org.